

Illinois and Michigan Canal NHC Core Activity Project Descriptions

Core Activity:	RECREATION				
Goal:	Create Informational Resource of Recreational Activities Available in the Corridor				
SMART Goal:	Inventory Available Recreational Resources				
Project:	Creation of Complete Informational Resources of Corridor Recreational Activities				
Project Description	Project Steps	Who will we have as Partner(s)?	Known Resources	What is the cost range estimate?	How will we know we succeeded?
Creation of Informational Resource of Corridor Recreational Activities, including: Biking Hiking Snowmobiling Equestrian Fishing Camping Hunting Wildlife Viewing Cross-country skiing, Boating Activities	(1) Research other Heritage Corridors and evaluate their strategies; (2) Partner with local governments and organizations to obtain information; (3) determine method of presentation (due to large volume of information, i.e., by county or sectors); (4) Determine mechanism for the resource information presentation, i.e., website, printed material, etc.	IDNR (contact: Chris Rollins) Local Communities Along Corridor Various Counties Along Corridor Other Available Volunteer Organizations (is there a list available?) Public Owner: counties municipalities	CCA, County and Municipal Governments Tom Willcockson Maps/Illustrations Hiking and Biking the I&M Canal Trail Library reports	Inventory (Data Collection & Databasing) \$ 10,000 - \$15,000	Information available to the public

Illinois and Michigan Canal NHC Core Activity Project Descriptions

Core Activity:	RECREATION				
Goal:	Link Disconnected Portions of the I&M Canal Trail from LaSalle/Peru to the Portage Site				
SMART Goal:	Identify Trail Gaps and Create Plans for Gap Closure (5years)				
Project:	Develop a Plan with Engineering Cost Estimates for Main Trail Connections				
Project Description	Project Steps	Who will we have as Partner(s)?	Known Resources	What is the cost range estimate?	How will we know we succeeded?
Main Trail Gap Evaluation and Establishment of Interconnections	(1) Review entire trail and indentify gaps; (2) Research options for connections (3) Establish a plan with recommendations for connections; (4) Engineer plans for trail connections (to facilitate funding options)	(1) DNR (2) National Park Service (3) Local Communities (4) Trail Advocacy Groups	(1) DNR (2) Counties, i.e. Cook County Forest Preserve District (3) IDOT (4) Local Communities (5) Advocacy Groups (6) CMAP (Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning)	(1) Gap Evaluation/Inventory @ \$20,000.00 (2) Engineering (depends on inventory)	Completion of Plans/Engineering Costs for Each identified Main Trail Gap

Illinois and Michigan Canal NHC Core Activity Project Descriptions

Core Activity:	Recreation				
Goal:	Connect I&M Canal Main Trail to Other Existing/Planned Regional Trails				
SMART Goal:	Create Master Concept Plan for Interconnections (1 year) and Creation of Connection (5 years)				
Project:	Develop Plan for Interconnections to Facilitate Cost Estimation				
Project Description	Project Steps	Who will we have as Partner(s)?	Known Resources	What is the cost range estimate?	How will we know we succeeded?
Regional Trail Systems Interconnection	(1) Create inventory of regional trail systems within Corridor; (2) Identify potential connections; (3) Prioritize connections; (4) Create plans to facilitate cost estimates; (5) Establish lead agencies for interconnections; (6) Work with partners to realize priority connections	(1) DNR (2) National Park Service (3) County Governments (4) Local Communities (5) Trail Advocacy Groups	(1) DNR (2) Counties, i.e. Cook County Forest Preserve District (3) IDOT (4) Local Communities (5) Advocacy Groups (6) CMAP (Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning)	\$50,000-\$75,000	Creation of Master Plan with establishment of one or two connections

Illinois and Michigan Canal NHC Core Activity Project Descriptions

Core Activity:	Recreation				
Goal:	Improving Navigation/Wayfinding Signage within 3 years				
SMART Goal:	Installation of Wayfinding Signage within 3 years				
Project:	Design, Construct, and Install Wayfinding Signage				
Project Description	Project Steps	Who will we have as Partner(s)?	Known Resources	What is the cost range estimate?	How will we know we succeeded?
Creation of Directional Signage (to make trail users aware of such things as interconnections, and amenities, i.e., restroom facilities, food sources, water stations, camping facilities)	(1) Inventory Existing Signage; (2) Identify additional signage needs (3) Plan Signage Placement (4) Design Signage (emphasis on consistent design throughout corridor) (5) Installation of Signs	(1) DNR (2) Local Communities	(1) DNR (2) Local Communities	\$25,000-\$50,000	Signs Installed

Illinois and Michigan Canal NHC Core Activity Project Descriptions

Core Activity:	Recreation
Goal:	Improve and/or Expand Special Events through Corridor
SMART Goal:	Promotion of Existing Events and/or Creation of Additional Events (2 years)
Project:	Create Special Events Marketing Campaign

Project Description	Project Steps	Who will we have as Partner(s)?	Known Resources	What is the cost range estimate?	How will we know we succeeded?
Create a Marketing Campaign of Special Event Opportunities to Facilitate Tourism/Local Economic Activity (Biking Events, Fishing Derbies, Etc.)	(1) Identify and Evaluate Existing Special Events; (2) Modify or improve existing events as needed; (3) Create Additional Events (4) Publicizing and Marketing Events	(1) Local Communities (2) Businesses Within Corridor (3) Heritage Corridor Convention and Visitor's Bureau (4) Local Bike Clubs, Running Clubs, Park Districts, Forest Preserve Districts and other Community Organizations	(1) Heritage Corridor Convention and Visitor's Bureau (2) Local Communities	\$20,000-\$25,000	Increase attendance of Events and/Visitors

Illinois and Michigan Canal NHC Core Activity Project Descriptions

Core Activity:	Recreation
Goal:	Evaluate and Determine the Need for Additional Camping Opportunities Throughout the Corridor
SMART Goal:	Identify Specific Locations for New Camping Facilities within Corridor (one year)
Project:	Development of Corridor Concept Plan for Camping

Project Description	Project Steps	Who will we have as Partner(s)?	Known Resources	What is the cost range estimate?	How will we know we succeeded?
Evaluation of Camping Opportunities Within the Corridor	(1) Inventory Existing Facilities within the Corridor; (2) Evaluate existing and potential locations (3) Establish Corridor Concept Plan for Additional Campgrounds and/or Improvements/Expansion of Existing facilities	(1) DNR (2) Local/Private Campground Owners	(1) DNR (2) Local/Private Campground Owners	\$20,000-\$25,000	Creation of Concept Plan

Illinois and Michigan Canal NHC Core Activity Project Descriptions

Core Activity:	Recreation
Goal:	Improve Maintenance of Canal Trail
SMART Goal:	Locate Funding Sources to Improve Maintenance of the Canal (2 years)
Project:	Identification of Grants or Other Sources of Funding to Maintain Trail

Project Description	Project Steps	Who will we have as Partner(s)?	Known Resources	What is the cost range estimate?	How will we know we succeeded?
Maintenance Program Evaluation and Establishment of Improvements	(1) Research Maintenance Issues (2) Evaluate Potential Funding Sources (3) Work with Partners to secure additional funding for maintenance	(1) DNR (2) Local Communities and Business (particularly those adjacent to the Canal Path) (3) Trail Users/ Volunteers	(1) DNR (2) Local Communities/ Organizations	\$25,000- \$50,000	Maintenance issues identified have been fixed